

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE WEBB COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS COURT
MEETING OF MARCH 12, 2001
LAREDO, TEXAS**

Let it be remembered that a regular meeting of the Webb County Commissioners Court was held on March 12, 2001 at 9:00 a.m. at the regular meeting place with the following members present to wit:

Mercurio Martinez, Jr.
Jerry Vasquez
Judith Gutierrez
Felix Velasquez
Miguel Urdiales

County Judge
Commissioner Prct.#1
Commissioner Prct.#2
Commissioner Prct.#3
Commissioner Prct.#4

Thus constituting a quorum, the Commissioners Court proceeded to act upon the agenda notice as posted in the notice of 9th of March 2001.

Present also were Selina G. Reyes, Deputy County Clerk, representing Mr.

Henry Flores, Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court, various officers and others interested in the business of the court

01-03-138

2. Approval of Minutes –

Motion to approve the minutes as submitted.

*** Commissioner Gutierrez asked to have the amount stated on page 12. – item 6. – 1. (For the record the amount listed is the correct amount)

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

01-03-139

3. Communications –

Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs regarding HOME Program application Number 20000023.

Mr. Rolando Gallegos. Small Business and Local Government Assistance addressed the court regarding programs.

Letter from State Senator Judith Zaffirini to Judge Martinez and Commissioners regarding Webb County's priority legislative agenda.

City of Laredo calls to Webb County for EMS/Fire for the month of February 2001.

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission notices of applications and Preliminary decisions for Permit no. 02722, 10681-002, 04184, 10681-002, 10681-006.

Texas Commission on Jail Standards copy of variance for Webb County which was acted upon on February 1, 2001.

Letter from Sheriff Juan Garza advising the court that for a second time in a row the Webb County Jail was in 100% compliance.

City of Laredo regarding Optional County Fee for Child Safety.

Presentation by Mr. Juan Vargas, Economic Development Director.

Mr. Hector Farias, Chairman of VIDA addressed the court.

Motion to move up item **01-03-143 7. – a., 7. – b. & 10. – c. }**

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to accept resolutions honoring Mr. Tom Wade (former Vice-Chair) and Mr. Albert De Llano as past members of the Webb County Planning Advisory Board and;

Appoint the following to the Webb County Planning Advisory Board:

Mr. David Puig – appointed by Commissioner Jerry Vasquez, Pct. 1

Mr. Rogelio Rodriguez – appointed by Commissioner Felix Velasquez, Jr., Pct. 2 and;

At this time Judge Martinez administered the oath to Mr. Puig (Mr. Rodriguez was absent – he will take his oath next meeting).

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

10. – c.

Motion to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (F.B.I.) for limited access to Webb County's Computer system (JACKETS Program, ticketing, County Clerk docket information, District Clerk Docket Information and real property records) to obtain information for investigative purposes at no cost to the county and the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Moved: Commissioner Velasquez

Second: Commissioner Gutierrez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

01-03-141

5.

Motion to approve a resolution for Legislative Action to withdraw a percentage of Production of value of the Natural Gas Severance Tax and allocate to Texas counties in accordance with drilling activity.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to approve a resolution in support of improving Health Care in Webb County.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to approve a resolution in support for funding for Development of Relief Routes in Rural Communities along Phase I High Priority Corridors of the Texas Trunk System.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

Ms. Araceli Garcia came before the court to express her appreciation to the court on behalf of residents of the Penitas West.

Motion to move up item 01-03-142 6. – a., b., h. }

Moved: Commissioner Urdiales
Second: Commissioner Gutierrez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

Motion to table this item:

Action to approve the Youth village Committee's recommendation and place item for a specially called election for the approval of sale or issuance of bonds for the construction of the proposed youth village.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – h.
(3.)

Motion to approve the transfer of a 1990 Chevrolet Pickup Truck, Vin# 1GCDC14Z01Z256873, from the Webb County Sheriff's Department to Ruben Reyes, Constable for Prct. 2

Moved: Commissioner Vasquez
Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – b.

At this time Mr. William M. McKamie, Attorney representing Webb County in collective bargaining with the Webb County Deputies Association came before the court to brief them on the latest regarding this matter.

Each Commissioner expressed their concerns regarding the agreement.

After considerable discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Gutierrez and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez to accept a 3-3 for two years agreement, and return in two (2) years to renegotiate contract. This is retro active to 10-1-2000. Voting in favor were Commissioner Gutierrez, Commissioner Velasquez, Commissioner Vasquez and Judge Martinez. Voting against was Commissioner Urdiales. The vote being 4 to 1, motion carried.

Motion to recess the meeting for 1:30 p.m.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

1:35 p.m.

Judge Martinez called the meeting to order.

01-03-140

4. Bills, Payroll and Monthly Reports:

Mr. William N. Hall, Jr., Treasurer presented the Treasurer Report dated 1-31-01 and the February Sales Tax Report.

Motion to approve to pay the bills as submitted and payroll as follows:

2-16 \$ 1,560,140.84

3-2 \$ 1,601,127.30

3-16 \$ 1,600,000.00

Moved: Commissioner Velasquez

Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to accept all reports as submitted.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. – c.

Motion to approve the following refunds:

First American Real Estate Tax Service

Reason: Erroneous Property Tax Payment for 1999 & 2000

Total Refund: \$ 778.51

Consolidated Towne East Holdings, L.C.

Reason: Over Payment

Refund: \$ 1,386.40

Gateway Centennial Dev. Co., Inc & Northtown Co.
Reason: Sec. 26.15, Correction of Tax roll
Refund: \$ 1,321.18

Carlaw Properties Ltd.
Reason: Sec. 26.15, Correction of Tax Roll

The Texas Mexican Rwy.
Reason: Over Payment
Refund: \$ 817.64

International Bank Of Commerce
Reason: Paid in error
Refund: \$ 4,032.86

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – d.

Motion to approve title and salary change for the following slots:

From:	Current:	To:	Proposed:
Electrician	\$ 1,539.20	Journeyman Electrician	\$ 2,130.34
Plumber	\$ 1,424.80	Journeyman	\$ 2,130.34
Electrician Assistant	\$ 1,390.10	Energy	\$ 2,130.34
Electrician HVAC	\$ 1,988.13	HVAC Tech I	\$ 2,260.07

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

**6. – e.
1., 2.,3.**

Motion to submit a one-time Head Start Application will allow the purchase of a 20 passenger bus at a cost of \$ 45,000, a long bed 8 cylinder truck for maintenance personnel at \$ 24,500 and playground soft surfacing equipment in the amount of \$ 122,135 for fall zones in four Head Start Centers and;

Fill the following slots:

Slot #1698 and # 1701 (Substitutes) @ \$ 6.15 an hour for 15 hours
A week.

Slot # 1908 and # 1654 (Teacher-Associates) @ \$ 17,125 a year.

Slot# 1047 and # 1598 9Teacher Assistant) at \$ 12,417 a year and;

Approve notice of intent to apply for Fiscal Year 2001 Head Start Expansion funds in the amount of \$ 415,067 to serve an additional 68 children in South Laredo (No County Match).

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. – f.

Motion to approve the Grant Application to the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance Program of a total amount of \$ 42,105.94 with a county cash match of \$ 21,052.97. This grant will provide 102 bullets proof vest's (15 for Special Webb County S.W.A.T. Team and 87 for Webb County Sheriff's and Constables).

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. – g.

- 1.** Motion to create slots for two (2) part-time/temporary drivers @ \$ 8.00 an hour and one (1) full time driver @ \$ 8.75 an hour for the Rural Transportation Program (Grant Funds – No impact on general fund).

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. – g.

- 2.** Motion to re-classify slot#1125 (Drive II), from “Driver” to “Fleet Manager” @ \$ 9.71 an hour (Grant funds – no impact on general fund).

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. - g.

- 3.** Motion to modify slot # 1853 and slot # 1238 (CSS Clerks) from part-time temporary workers (\$ 6.00 an hour) to full-time temporary at \$ 7.00 an hour (Funding – County’s cash match for Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) and Community Services Block grant – CSBG).

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. – h.

- 1.** Motion to authorize by Order, the Sheriff and Constables of Webb County to appoint Reserve Deputies and limiting the number of appointments to what they currently have at the present time.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – h.

- 2.** Motion to table this item:

Action to approve/ratify Agreement (contingent upon County Attorney Review) between Webb County and Texas Wired Music, Inc. – Marketing on hold, (Professional messaging). One time charge of \$ 50.00 (for each location) \$ 69.95 a month at 1000 Houston St. and \$ 29.95 at 1110 Victoria St. and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – h.

- 4.** Motion to rename the road/streets names under the county's rural 911 addressing efforts for the following areas:

SAN CARLOS – PHASE I

From:

Sinote Rd.
El Gallo
Canario Rd.
Golondrina Rd.
Harmonia Rd.
Mariposa Rd.
Paisano Rd.

To:

Nacogoches Rd.
Gore Rd.
Adelitia Rd.
Escandon Rd.
Emiliano Rd.
Amy Rd.
Gutierrez Rd.

SAN CARLOS PHASE II
(a.k.a.) SAN ENRIQUE

From:	To:
Mariachi Rd.	Welch Rd.
Huachinango Rd.	Barrera Rd.
Benedicto Rd.	Kay Bailey Rd.

Presentation made by Mr. Jesus Sanchez.

6. – h.

5. Motion to table this item:

Action regarding recommendations by the Waters Consulting Group regarding salary adjustments to employees in certain job classifications.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – h.

6. Motion to approve a pilot program of having Commissioners Court meetings on Tuesdays and at 5:30 p.m.(so that it does not conflict with the City). The court agreed upon suggestion of Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney to make a formal announcement during the meeting of March 26, 2001 that the meeting of April 9, 2001 will be held at 5:30 p.m.

Moved: Commissioner Velasquez
Second: Commissioner Gutierrez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – i.

Motion to accept Risk Management Department end of year report for Fiscal Year 1999-2000 on the following:

Health Insurance Program
Worker's Compensation Program
Property/Casualty/Liability
Loss Control

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

6. – j.

Motion to table this item:

Presentation by Mr. Dana Batiste, United Water Inc. on the utilization of ground water from Webb County's School Lands.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

01-03-143

7. – d.

Motion to ratify "Certification regarding compliance with Plat Requirements and the connection of utilities" to authorize utility connections to the following properties:

Connection(s) qualifying under Sec. 232.029 (i), TLGC

Lot 5, Block 19, Pueblo Nuevo Subdivision (electricity – 1 dwelling)
Tract 17, Unit VII, Rancho Penitas, West (electricity 1 dwelling).

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

01-03-144

8. – a.

Motion to authorize to purchase one 8-passenger “All purpose” van to improve the quality of services through the provision of transportation service for the Webb County Self Help Center under the U.S.Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) – Neighborhood Initiatives (NI) Grant Program for a total amount of \$ 20,000 (additional grant funds available for the maintenance insurance and fuel for the van) and to authorize the County Purchasing Agent.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

8. – b.

Motion to authorize the Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs – TCDP Contract # 720889 (Fy 2000-2001 Community Development Program. For Los Corralitos water improvements (Project Engineer – Mejia Engineering) contingent upon approval of final plans and specification by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), County Engineering and the City Of Laredo (No cost to the county).

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

01-03-145

9. – a.

Motion to award the following Bid and Proposal:

Bid # 2001-55 Fiber Optics from 902 Victoria St., Webb County
Sheriff Administration Offices to M.I.S. Department
to: Total Com., Inc.

Proposal # P-2001-04 Webb County 2001 Colonias Ranchitos
R.O.W. Acquisition Project Highway 359
to: Rofin Group, Inc.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

9. – b.

Motion to obtain the services of PCI service to install electrical panels for the Colorado Water well in the amount of \$ 6,950.00 (Account 010-7002-6410).

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

9. – c.

Motion to reject the submitted proposal from Atlas Commercial Services for construction of Webb County utilities building in Rio Bravo, Texas as recommended by the Engineering Department.

Moved: Commissioner Vasquez
Second: Commissioner Gutierrez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

9. – d.,e.,f.,g., & h.

Motion to approve the following items:

Obtain the services of Simplex for an annual test and inspection of the fire alarm systems in the amount of \$ 9,330.00 at the following nine facilities:

Webb County Court House
Webb County Justice Center
Webb County Restitution
Casa Blanca Clubhouse
El Cenizo Community Center

Agricultural Building
Larga Vista Community Center
Mirando Convention Center
Juvenile Detention Center

and;

Cancel annual contract for janitorial supplies currently with Unisource due to the closing of business in Laredo, Texas. Purchasing Agent recommends secondary vendor, Star Janitorial Supplies, for the remainder of the fiscal year with the exception of items 5,6,13,14 and 18 to Cavazos Wholesale effective immediately and;

Purchase complete computer equipment from ICSS in the amount of \$ 6,213.00 for the J.J.A.E.P. Program (Account # 149-1301-6020) and;

Purchase 12 SIG-226 Pistols with Nite Sights and magazines from G.T. Distributors in the amount of \$ 7,548.00 (Acct. 317-2201-8410) and;

Approve Change Order in the amount of \$ 6,187.50 payable to Aguero Trucking for the remediation – abatement of asbestos of Norwest Building.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez

Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

01-03-146

10. – a.

Motion to enter into a contract amendment with the U.S. Department of Labor to extend the Welfare to Work Program (Grant Agreement # Y-7203-9-00-81-60) to September 20, 2001 and authorize the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

10. – b.

Motion to enter into a Three-Party Agreement between Webb County, Constable Pct. 4, Agustin Juarez, and U.S. Department of Justice to authorize participation in the Federal Equitable Sharing Program (Shared assets to be used for law enforcement purposes; establish and maintain separate accounts for Federal Equitable Sharing Program Funds and agree to conduct annual audit of any funds or property received under the program). and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

10. – d.

Motion to ratify amendment number 5 to Contract # 716043 between Webb County and The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs by revising the budget line-items and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Velasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

10. – e.

Motion to order the acceptance of access and utility lines within Penitas West Subdivision from Wilson Real Properties, LTD., and Deutsch Properties, LTD., and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

10. – f.

Motion to enter into contract amendment number 1 with the Texas Department of Economic Development to extend the term of the Texas Capital Fund Program contract #717282/Laredo Modular Construction System from May 31, 2001 to May 31, 2002 and authorize the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

Moved: Commissioner Velasquez
Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

2:50 p.m.

Motion to go into **Executive Session** for the following item}

Action regarding Texas Mexican Railway Co. offer to sell the north ½ of Lot 1 and the north ½ of lot 2 in Block 196 Western Division of the City of Laredo, authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

3:05 p.m.

The court returned to regular session and Judge Martinez stated that no action had been taken in Executive Session.

10. – g.

Motion to allow County Attorney to negotiate settlement of purchase and report price at next meeting.

Moved: Commissioner Urdiales
Second: Commissioner Gutierrez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

A motion was made by Commissioner Gutierrez and seconded by Commissioner Urdiales to officially announce that they are opposed to the proposed Regional Landfill. The Resolution will be brought back to the court at a later date.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Urdiales

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Moved: Commissioner Gutierrez
Second: Commissioner Vasquez

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

